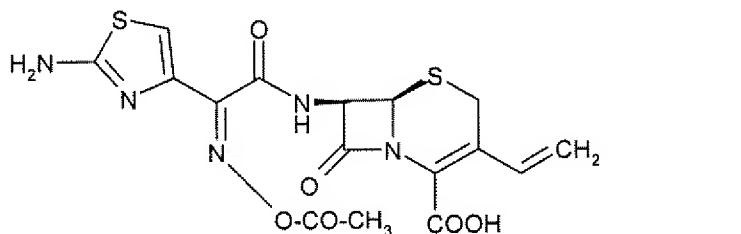


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended) 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid of formula I



in the form of a crystalline salt having a purity of at least 90% by weight as determined by the percent HPLC area.

Claim 2 (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 in crystalline salt form, wherein the crystalline salt is a salt with a sulfonic or phosphonic acid or a salt with sulfuric or sulfamic acid, as the hydrogen sulfate, sulfate or sulfamate, or a salt with phosphoric acid, as the phosphate, or a salt with hydrochloric acid, as the hydrochloride.

Claim 3 (currently amended) A compound according to claim 2, wherein the acid is an acid of formula II



in which X signifies Cl^- , HSO_4^- , R_1YO_3^- , H_2NSO_3^- , H_2PO_4^- , H_2PO_4^- , $\frac{1}{2}(\text{SO}_4)^{2-}$ wherein R_1 is alkyl or optionally substituted aryl and Y signifies S or P.

Claim 4 (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the crystalline salt is a p-toluenesulfonate, methanesulfonate, hydrogen sulfate, sulfate, amidosulfate, phosphate, hydrogen chloride or benzenesulfonate.

Claims 5-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (currently amended) A compound of formula I according to claim 1 in the form of a salt, ~~optionally in crystalline form~~, wherein the salt is selected from the group consisting of phosphate, hydrogen phosphate, mesylate, tosylate, sulfate, hydrogen sulfate, hydrochloride and sulfamate.

Claim 13 (previously presented) The compound in the form of a salt according to claim 12 which is 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid phosphate having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 1.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The compound in the form of a salt according to claim 12 which is 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid hydrochloride having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 2.

Claim 15 (previously presented) The compound in the form of a salt according to claim 12 which is 7-[2-(2-Aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido]-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid tosylate having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 3.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The compound in the form of a salt according to claim 12 which is 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido]-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid hydrogensulfate having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 4.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The compound in the form of a salt according to claim 12 which is 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido]-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid mesylate having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 5.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The compound in the form of a salt according to claim 12 which is 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(methylcarbonyloxyimino)acetamido]-3-vinyl-cephem-4-carboxylic acid sulfate having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as that shown in Figure 6.

Claim 19 (previously presented) A salt as claimed in claim 12 ~~in substantially pure form~~ having a purity of at least 95%.

Claim 20 (new) A salt as claimed in claim 19 having a purity of at least 98%.

Claim 21 (new) A salt as claimed in claim 20 having a purity of at least 99%.